

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been previously canceled; claims 24 and 35 are currently canceled. Claims 21, 34 and 36-39 have been amended by way of this response. New claims 41 and 42 have been added. Thus, claims 21-23, 25-34 and 36-42 are currently pending and presented for examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the amendments and the remarks.

Response to objections to the drawings:

The drawings are objected to as they do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant herewith submits an amended drawing sheet 1/1 labeled as "Replacement Sheet" and respectfully requests the examiner to withdraw the objections to the drawings.

Response to rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101:

Claims 21-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because these claims fail to be drawn to patent eligible subject matter.

Applicant has amended independent claim 21 now reciting:

“...
a data processing device storing a first help facility, ...; and
a non-volatile storage medium storing a second help facility ...,
wherein the additional online help data is visualized for the user in a display device
together with the help data provided by the first help facility.”

Support for these amendments may be found for example in paragraphs [0012], [0014] and [0018]. No new matter has been added.

The help system is now recited in conjunction with physical structure, i.e. a data processing device, a non-volatile storage medium and a display device and should therefore be treated as a product claim. Applicant respectfully requests the examiner to withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Request for allowance:

In the instant office action, the examiner indicated that claims 24-33 contain patentable subject matter and would be allowed if applicant overcomes the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 and if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has rewritten independent claim 21 in such a manner by including the limitations of claim 24 (now cancelled).

Further, the examiner indicated that claims 37-40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has rewritten claim 38 in such a manner. Claims 36, 37 and 39 have been amended to depend on allowable claim 38.

Furthermore, applicant has amended independent claim 34 to include the limitations of allowable claim 21.

New claims:

New method claims 41 and 42 being dependent on claim 38 have been added. Support for these new claims may be found for example in paragraphs [0032] – [0034] of the specification. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, independent claims 21, 34 and 38 are patentable. Furthermore, claims 22, 23-33, which depend on claim 21, and claims 36-42, which depend on claim 38, are also patentable at least based on their dependence from claim 21 or 38 as well as based on their own merits. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the examiner to withdraw the rejections.

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Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding office action are inapplicable to the present claims. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including fees for additional claims and terminal disclaimer fee, or credit any overpayments to deposit account no. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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